

News Release



August 7, 2018
Release Number: 4261

Public Hearing Scheduled for Charleston County *Comprehensive Plan* Amendments to Implement the Ten-Year Update

Public Hearing scheduled for Tuesday, August 21 at 6:00 PM

Charleston County Council will hold a public hearing on the proposed amendments on **Tuesday, August 21, 2018 at 6:00 PM** in Charleston County Council Chambers located on the second floor of the Lonnie Hamilton, III Public Services Building (4045 Bridge View Drive, North Charleston, SC, 29405).

On July 9, 2018, following a public input campaign that included seven workshops held in different areas of the County, the Charleston County Planning Commission completed the Ten-Year Update of the *Comprehensive Plan* and recommended unanimously to Council to adopt Plan amendments to implement their findings. The Ten-Year Update focused on the following objectives:

- Reviewing and updating the vision, goals, needs, and strategies;
- Updating the Plan based on land use and demographic changes since the Five-Year Review (completed in 2015);
- Eliminating redundancy and making the plan more succinct; and
- Reviewing and updating the Annual Work Program.

To view the draft Plan amendments and Public Comment Summary Report, visit this [webpage](#). To stay involved in the process, visit the [Zoning and Planning Department's webpage](#) or follow the Department on [Facebook](#). Upon adoption of the Ten-Year Update, the Planning Commission and Zoning and Planning Department staff will begin implementing the Annual Work Program.

"Public participation in the comprehensive planning process is critical to ensure County growth is consistent with the community's vision. Public input also helps guide the provision of County services and impacts future policy decisions that improve the general welfare of all citizens and visitors to Charleston County," said Planning Director Joel Evans.

What is the Charleston County Comprehensive Plan?

- Charleston County's Comprehensive Plan is an expression of the County's intent for where and how future growth and development should occur. The Plan also identifies parts of the County that may or may not be appropriate for certain types of growth, given the Lowcountry's unique character and natural conditions.

Why does the Comprehensive Plan need to be reviewed?

- Title 6, Chapter 29 of the South Carolina Code of Laws requires that the Comprehensive Plan be reviewed at least once every five years and updated at least once every ten years. The original Comprehensive Plan was adopted by County Council on Apr. 20, 1999. The first five-year review was adopted on Nov. 18, 2003; the first ten-year update was adopted on Nov. 18, 2008; and the second five-year review was completed in October 2013 and implemented in January 2015.

Who is involved in the update process?

- The public;
- Stakeholders;
- [Charleston County Council](#);
- [Charleston County Planning Commission](#); and
- [Charleston County Zoning & Planning Department](#) staff

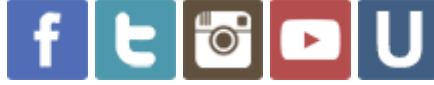
How does the process work?

- The Charleston County Planning Commission reviewed the Comprehensive Plan elements during their regular meetings, beginning in March 2017 and culminating in January 2018.
- Public workshops were held in March 2018 at seven locations around the County to gather public input on the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan to implement the Planning Commission update.

- The Planning Commission reviewed the input gathered from the public workshops and made a recommendation to Council regarding the Comprehensive Plan amendments to implement the Ten-Year Update. All Planning Commission meetings are open to the public.
- County Council will hold at least one public hearing regarding the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and adopt the amendments after three readings. All County Council meetings are open to the public.

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